

REMARKS

I. **Claim Status**

Claims 1-8 are amended.

Claims 9-51 are added.

Claims 1-51 are pending.

Claims 1, 15, 25, and 39 are the independent claims.

Support for new claims can be found throughout the originally filed specification.

No new matter has been added.



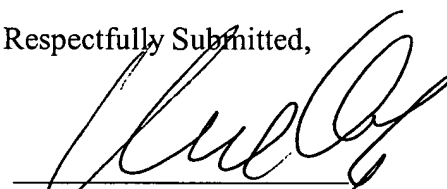
31518

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Neifeld IP Law, PC
2001 Jefferson Davis Highway
Suite 1001
Arlington, VA 22202

3/31/04
Date:

Respectfully Submitted,


Richard A. Neifeld, Ph.D.
Registration No. 35,299
Attorney of Record

Tel: 703-415-0012

Fax: 703-415-0013

Email: rneifeld@Neifeld.com

Printed: March 31, 2004 (12:20pm)

Y:\Clients\Effert, Bressel und

Kollegen\EFFE0010\EFFE0010UEP-US\Drafts\PrelimAm_040330.wpd